Indicator RECOMMENDED	Current Use of Illicit Drugs Other Than Marijuana by Persons Aged 12 and Older
Justification	Use of classes of illicit drugs included here has varying degrees of negative physical and psychological effects. Chronic drug use can lead to dependence and serious medical conditions. Both chronic and occasional use can result in serious medical conditions stemming from the drug itself, the method of drug administration, or the use of contaminated equipment.
Definition	Percent of persons aged 12 and older reporting use of any illicit drug other than marijuana, or an abusable product that may be obtained legally, on one or more days within the past 30 days. Other illicit drug categories include cocaine, heroin, and hallucinogens (LSD, PCP, peyote, mescaline, mushrooms, and ecstasy). Abusable legal products include prescription drugs (pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, and sedatives) and inhalants (amyl nitrate, cleaning fluids, gasoline, paint, and glue).
Data Source	National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Frequency	Annual
Geographic Levels	National and State
Demographic Categories	Age
Strengths	NSDUH is the only national source that currently provides prevalence of use estimates for both adolescents and adults for every state.
Limitations	The inclusion of multiple categories of substances within a single measure lacks specificity and similar values for this indicator could be obtained through very different patterns of use across the categories. State-level estimates for most states are based on relatively small samples. Although augmented by model-based estimation procedures, estimates for specific age groups have relatively low precision (i.e., large confidence intervals). The estimates are provided directly by SAMHSA and raw data that could be used for alternative calculations (e.g., different age categories and/or other demographic subgroups) are not available. The estimates are subject to bias due to self-report and non-response (refusal/no answer).